

S E C R E T

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director for Operations

FROM: Chief, International Activities Division

SUBJECT: Soviet Book Distribution

REFERENCE: DCI Executive Registry [ ] 7 September 1984

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1. While it is impossible to verify the number of books distributed by Novosti Press Agency and other Soviet outlets around the world, we can look at the official figures published by the Soviets themselves and then offer some commentary. The following is from "Press in the USSR in 1982" [Pechat SSSR v 1982 godyl], a statistical collection published by the State Committee of the USSR on Affairs of Publishing, Polygraphy and the Book Trade:

1982 - Soviet literature for export for foreign readers; books and pamphlets: 2,800 titles in 61,526,100 copies  
of which Novosti published: 770 titles in 16,913,700 copies

In a separate listing we learn that in 1982 in the Soviet Union books and pamphlets numbering 1,191 titles were published in English in 24,308,700 copies.

2. We suspect that these figures represent only part of the total picture of distribution of Soviet books outside the borders of the Soviet Union. The main outlet is Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga from which foreign purchasers may buy Soviet books, but the Soviets distribute enormous numbers of books and pamphlets, often at very low prices or free of charge, through all Soviet installations abroad--embassies, consulates, friendship societies, and so on. Further, according to a [ ] names on mailing lists are regularly sent unsolicited books and pamphlets.

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## EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

## ROUTING SLIP

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI				
6	DDA				
7	DDO	X			
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/OLL				
15	D/PAO				
16	SA/IA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPD/OIS				
19	ES		X		
20					
21					
22					
SUSPENSE		17 September Date			

Remarks

D/ Executive Secretary *W*

10 September 1984

Date

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Executive Registry

84- 8088

7 September 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Operations  
FROM: Director of Central Intelligence  
SUBJECT: Soviet Book Distribution


1. Do our book people have information on the books the Soviets distribute around the world?

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2. Walt Raymond also wants this information and may be of assistance on the source from which it can be developed.

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3. He also asked if we know anything about Sterling Books, which is said to be a Soviet concern operating in London and serving as the Soviet English-language outlet.

  
William J. Casey

DC  
EXI

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SECRET